

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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46

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /022 W

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R 081303Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO CNO

COMSUBLANT

CINCLANTFLT

COMSUBRON TEN

USS GREENLING

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0404

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0437

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: VISIT OF USS GREENLING TO BRIDGETOWN

1. THE PURPOSES OF THE VISIT OF THE USS GREENLING TO BRIDGETOWN FROM FEBRUARY 10 TO 14 WERE, WE KNOW, OPERATIONAL AND TO PROVIDE THE SHIP'S COMPANY WITH REST, NOT A "GOODWILL" VISIT IN THE STRICT SENSE OF THE TERM. HOWEVER, THE GREENLING'S VISIT DID SERVE A GOODWILL PURPOSE. THE COMMANDING OFFICER, LCDR NICHOLS, IN COMPANY WITH THE EMBASSY'S POLITICAL OFFICER, CALLED ON THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE BARBADOS REGIMENT (ESSENTIALLY A RESERVE ORGANIZATION) AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ROYAL BARBADOS POLICE FORCE. AS A RESULT OF THE MEETING WITH THE FORMER OFFICIAL, EXCHANGES TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THE NEWLY FORMED COAST GUARD OF BARBADOS AND THE GREENLING'S COMPANY. IT WAS BENEFICIAL FOR THE COAST GUARD TO RECEIVE THE INSTRUCTION OF THE GREENLING'S HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

2. IN FUTURE VISITS OF US WARSHIPS, WHICH WE ENCOURAGE, WE RECOMMEND EARLY NOTIFICATION AS TO THE EXTENT OF ADVANCE PUBLICITY DESIRED AND THE DEGREE OF PUBLIC CONTACT WITH THE SHIP TO BE PERMITTED. WE ALSO HOPE THAT THE NEXT VISIT WILL BE BY A VESSEL OF A TYPE PERMITTING FULL PUBLIC ACCESS.

3. THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF BARBADOS ARE RECEPTIVE TO
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VISITS BY OUR FLEET. AS COMPARED WITH THE BRITISH AND CANA-

DIANS, OUR VESSLES HAVE VISITED BARBADOS ONLY RARELY, 1972
AND 1976. WE BELIVE THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ESPECIALLY
WELCOME A VISIT TO COINCIDE WITH CELEBRATION OF BARBADOS'
TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE (NOVEMBER 30).
BRITTON

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NNN

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